

Minutes

Provincial Executive Meeting

Monday, February 7, 2011

UNOFFICIAL until approved by the Provincial Executive.

Leadership, advocacy and service for Manitoba's public school boards

191 Provencher Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba
9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Hugh Coburn President
Robert Rivard Vice-President
Jacquie Field Vice-President
Yolande Dupuis Past President
Floyd Martens Director Region #1
Cheryl Zelenitsky Director Region #3
Vaughn Wadelius Director Region #4
Tom Parker Director Region #5
Cory Juan Director Region #5
Rita Hildahl Director Region #6

Carolyn Duhamel Executive Director
Heather Demetriooff Associate Director
George Coupland Director, Labour Relations
Barb Unrau Executive Assistant

REGRETS: Norbert VanDeynze Director Region #2

1.1 **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Field/Dupuis:

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

Carried

1.2 **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Juan/Parker:

**THAT the minutes of the Provincial Executive meeting held
December 6, 2010, be approved as circulated.**

Carried

4.0 **FOR ACTION/DECISION**

1. Executive and Executive Director Performance Evaluation 2010. (in camera)

Dupuis/Rivard:

THAT the Executive move in camera at 9:10 a.m. to conduct the Executive Director and Executive performance evaluations.

Carried

Field/Wadelius:

THAT the Executive move out of camera at 11:00 a.m.

Carried

2. Regional meeting follow-up.

- (a) Resolutions referred to Executive
 - Region 1, re Ability to Levy Property Tax

Administration has begun gathering information on the impacts of full provincial funding models in other provinces. This information will be provided to member boards and will be used to inform MSBA's advocacy work on this subject. At the request of Education Minister Nancy Allan, the information gathered will also be shared with her office.

- Region 5, re Common PD Days
- since government has provided a direction in this regard it was suggested that MSBA could request government to monitor implementation of this new policy with a view to making revisions should it create difficulty for students, parents, or school boards in its first year of operation.

Juan/Parker:

THAT an Executive resolution be drafted requesting government to monitor the new policy around common non-instruction days with a view to making revisions to the policy should it negatively impact students, parents or school boards in its first year of operation.

Carried

(b) Regional meeting follow-up

- concerns related to justice rulings (e.g. returning offenders to the school where the victim attends)
- request a meeting with the Justice Minister to express concerns
- access the CSBA report on the Youth Criminal Justice Act
- request for MSBA to convene meetings with community leaders to raise support for public school boards and their ability to tax
- contact Alberta School Boards Association to get feedback on its public forum on education with Jamie Vollmer
- prepare an evaluation form for feedback on regional meetings in 2012 in terms of process and content

(c) 2011-2012 budget and fee requirement

- no changes were proposed from the information presented at regional meetings

3. Committee appointments

Zelenitsky/Rivard:

THAT the following committee appointments be approved:

Aboriginal Education	Rita Hildahl, Winnipeg S.D. Bill Schaffer, Swan Valley S.D. Florence Beaudry, Border Land S.D. Jérôme Dondo, DSFM
Certificate Review	Wayne Ritcher, River East Transcona
Dean's Advisory Committee	Gail Watson, Pembina Trails S.D.
FRAME	Robert Rivard, Seine River S.D.
MCLE	Pat Bowslaugh, Brandon S.D.
Resolutions	Carole Black, Rolling River S.D.
Social Planning Council	Marg Walker, Fort la Bosse S.D.
Tech Voc Ed	Mark Sefton, Brandon S.D.
MASS Rural Education Committee	Cheryl Zelenitsky, Evergreen S.D.

Carried

4. Invitation from Manitoba Education to attend the CMEC "Dissemination Event", re PCAP and PISA results, March 23 and March 24, 2011.

- Rita Hildahl, Region 6 Director will represent MSBA at this event.

5. January 28, 2011 Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba request for support for the Treaty Education Initiative and invitation to attend the Treaty Education Initiative Networking Mixer February 15, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
 - The Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM) has invited representatives from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC), Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Manitoba Education (ME) and the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) to participate in a 2-day session on *The Treaties and Treaty Relationship: Teacher Guides for Grades 5 & 6*
 - will request that government provide MSBA with some feedback on this event
 - Robert Rivard (Vice-President) and Rita Hildahl (Region 6 Director) will represent the association at the Networking Mixer following this event on February 15

The Executive had a discussion around the TRCM proposed pilot lesson plans for Grades 5 & 6

- how many lesson plans are they proposing
- expectation that students will be knowledgeable of the topics, concepts and understandings of the Treaties and Treaty Relationship by the end of grade 12

Rivard/Juan:

THAT MSBA send a letter of support, in principle, for the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba pilot project titled *The Treaties and the Treaty Relationship: Teacher Guides for Grade 5 and 6.*

Carried

5.0 FOR DISCUSSION

1. January 12, 2011, copy of MASS letter to Minister Steve Ashton, re Traffic within school zones.
 - the Minister of Education agrees there are legitimate concerns in this regard and is considering creating a working group within the department to investigate this matter further
 - MSBA would send its Risk Manager, Keith Thomas as its representative on this working group
 - there will be convention resolutions coming forward at the AGM which address these concerns and it will be helpful to have these concerns on record as policies of the Association
2. Education Week – April 11-15, 2011
 - MSBA has been working closely with MTS on plans for Education Week 2011
 - the draft theme is “Our Classrooms are the World”
 - proposing that the launch take place in a classroom
 - Manitoba Education and other education partners will be invited to participate in this initiative

- MSBA convened a meeting of communications officers from urban and surrounding school divisions on January 28; great support from this group to assist in raising the profile of Education Week in their respective school divisions
 - will highlight Education Week on the MSBA website and encourage school boards to begin thinking of activities which they might undertake to celebrate public education in Manitoba
3. Public relations campaign (MASS)
- in December MASS expressed an interest in working with MSBA in developing a public relations campaign to prepare for the fall election
 - will invite MASBO's participation as well
4. December 2010 Financial Statements.
- provided for information
 - the Executive expressed appreciation to Kelly Henderson for the detail and clarity in her financial reporting to the Executive and the membership

Region 5 Director, Tom Parker excused himself from the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

8.0 EXECUTIVE/STAFF REPORTS & MATTERS ARISING

1. President

In addition to his written report, the President noted that he had attended the meeting with the Minister on February 1 and with MASBO on February 2. He commented briefly on his activities over the past month.

- The President and Executive Director gave a brief update on the CSBA Board of Directors conference call held January 14. They also reported that Executive Officers had met with Manitoba's CSBA Director Ruth Ann Furgala on January 10. A copy of the notes from that meeting will be circulated to member boards in the February 9 electronic divisional mail.

2. Vice-President(s)

In addition to his written report, Vice-President Robert Rivard and Past President Yolande Dupuis commented on the meeting with Minister Allan on February 1. Items discussed included

- funding announcement;
- transportation/traffic concerns in school zones; Minister considering convening a working group to look at this issue
- teacher bargaining
- Bill 13
- school board involvement in residential development planning processes

In addition to her written report, Vice-President Jacquie Field commented on

- the MTS conference on appropriate education entitled “*Encompassing Kids*” being held April 20-21 at the Victoria Inn, Winnipeg, and
- her attendance at the State of the City Address on Friday, February 4.

3. Past President

In addition to her written report, Past President Yolande Dupuis commented on

- the work of the Manitoba Education for Sustainable Development Working Group
- one of the projects is the development of a Manitoba Sustainability Education Directory providing multi-sectoral information on sustainability education providers and their programs, services and action projects across all regions of the province
- for a fee of \$50 MSBA can be listed in this directory which would allow member boards access to the directory as well

The Executive agreed to have the Manitoba School Boards Association listed in the Manitoba Sustainability Education Directory at an annual fee of \$50.

4. Directors

Region 1: Director Floyd Martens written report as submitted.

Region 3: Director Cheryl Zelenitsky commented on her attendance at all regional meetings. She felt the afternoon session this year was the best she had attended and believed it was extremely well received by everyone in attendance.

Region 4: Director Vaughn Wadelius reported that he had contacted all boards in his region but no issues were received. He commented on Kelsey School Division’s annual meeting with the Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN).

- they talked about the issue of MSBA associate membership and the opportunity for them to participate in our professional development activities
- OCN invited Kelsey School Division to participate in their professional development activities
- it was also noted that the Director of OCN is an associate member of MASS
- OCN is opening a new collegiate and Kelsey School Division trustees had an opportunity to tour the school
- they also talked about early childhood

Region 5: In addition to her written report, Director Cory Juan reported on the State of the City Address she and Vice-President Jacquie Field attended on February 4.

Region 6: Director Rita Hildahl commented on her written report. A discussion followed on how education will be a major topic for all political parties in the fall election.

The Executive Director commented briefly on a communication received from Education Critic Cliff Cullen

- she will prepare a letter of response to the issues raised in Mr. Cullen's communication
- after convention MSBA will be requesting a meeting with the Liberal, Progressive Conservative and New Democratic Party caucuses.

5. Executive Director

In addition to her written report, the Executive Director commented on two additional matters:

- notice of University of Winnipeg Urban and Inner City Studies 2011 Speaker Series event on February 16, 2011, and
- MSBA building concerns:
 - water coming in through the bricks on the north west corner of the building; getting an estimate to fix
 - related to the Association's continuity/disaster planning we are looking to find
 - off-site storage for our permanent records
 - scanning permanent records to a DVD

The Executive authorized the Executive Director to proceed in a financially prudent manner to protect the permanent records of the organization.

6. Associate Director

The Associate Director Heather Demetriooff provided a verbal report.

- convention registration packages have been sent to boards and posted to the MSBA website
- as reported earlier, MSBA convened a meeting of communications officers from urban and surrounding school boards and will continue to meet on a regular basis
- she reviewed with Regional Directors the process for selection of Student Citizenship Award recipients for 2011
- Lighthouse Project Workshop scheduled for April 28 and 29 at the Victoria Inn in Brandon
- Francine Morin from the Alliance for Arts Education has developed a new DVD, "Between Hearts and Minds," which we will show at the call to order after lunch at our AGM on Friday, March 18

A request was made to have the issue of nominations for the Student Citizenship Award discussed at a future Executive meeting.

It was noted that the Federal government provided no assurance of future funding for anti-gang prevention programs and accordingly there is concern that some such programs may have to shut down.

Field/Rivard:

THAT MSBA send a letter to the Federal Government encouraging them to continue to fund anti-gang prevention and like programs for the youth of this country.

Carried

8.1 INFORMATION REPORTS

- (a) Correspondence
- (b) Committee Minutes

Sent via e-mail December 10, 2010

- 1. Student Services Inclusive Education Committee Meeting November 22, 2010.
 - 2. Information Update – Student Services Inclusive Education November 22, 2010
- (c) Publications
 - 1. Manitoba Human Rights Commission, *MHR Connections*, November, December, 2010 and January 2011
 - 2. The Manitoba Child Care Association, *Child Care Bridges*, Winter 2010

9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011, 1:00 P.M. at the Delta Winnipeg.

Zelenitsky:

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

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